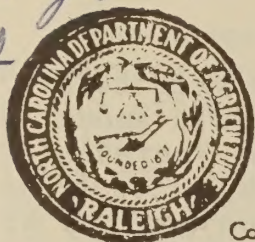


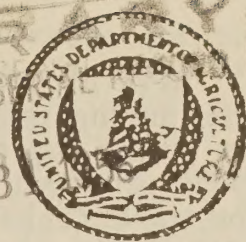
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NORTH CAROLINA



Cooperative Crop Reporting Service



MAY 3

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

No. 208

RALEIGH, N. C.

MAY 21, 1956

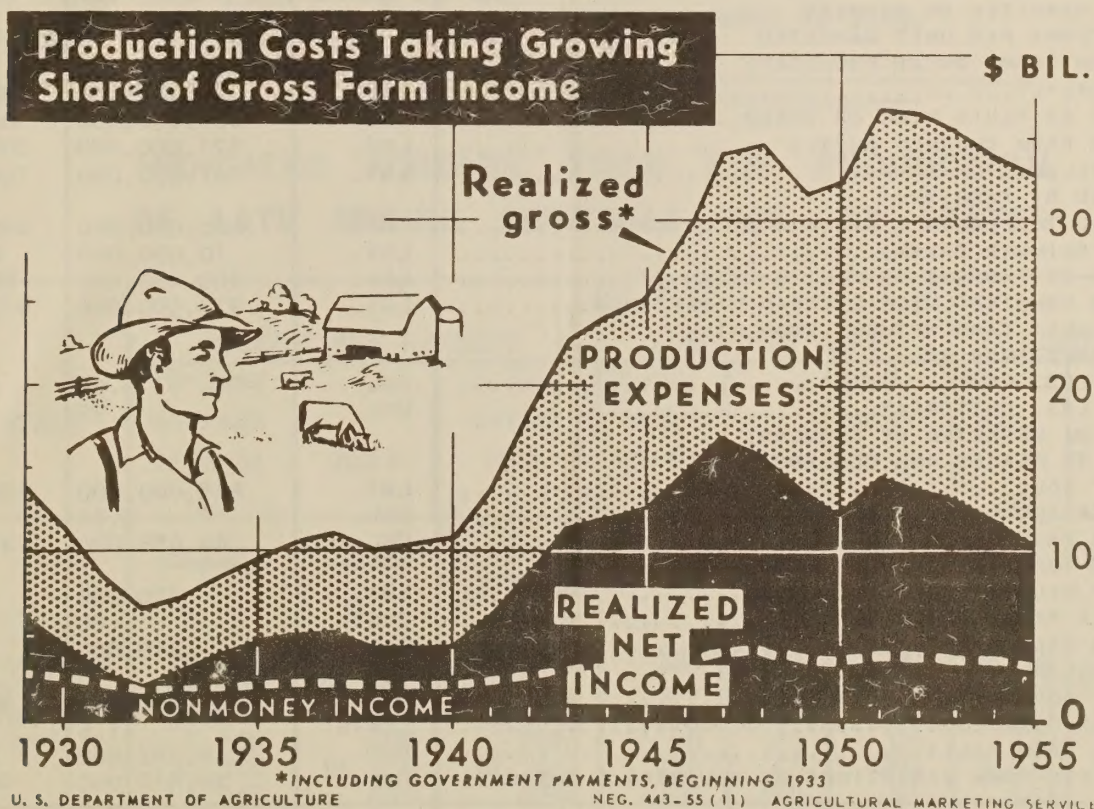
U. S. FARM CASH RECEIPTS

January - March 1956

Cash receipts from farm marketings in the first quarter of 1956 totaled approximately 5.9 billion dollars, down 5 percent from the total of 6.2 billion for the first quarter of 1955. The total volume of farm marketings was about 2 percent larger than a year ago, but prices averaged 7 percent lower. First quarter livestock receipts of 3.6 billion dollars were down 5 percent, mostly because of lower average prices for meat animals.

Crop receipts of 2.3 billion dollars were 4 percent below a year ago, reflecting lower average prices.

The preliminary estimate of farmers' cash receipts in March is 1.8 billion dollars, about the same as in February but 5 percent lower than a year earlier. March receipts from livestock and products are estimated at 1.3 billion dollars; crop receipts at 0.5 billion.



Farm operators' realized net income declined again in 1955, continuing the trend under-way since 1951. Compared with 1954, farm operators' realized net this year may be down about 10 percent. Compared with 1951 the decline is 28 percent. Realized net in-

come in 1955 was the lowest in 13 years.

Prospective trends in farm prices and costs indicate some further decline in net income next year. Cash receipts from marketings may be down a little, with the expected reduction in costs -- mostly feed -- only partly offsetting.

INCREASED N. C. MILK PRODUCTION

Milk production on North Carolina farms during 1955 amounted to 1,683 million pounds, as compared to 1,672 million pounds produced in 1954. Cash receipts from marketings of all milk and cream totaled \$56,555,000 as compared with receipts of \$54,417,000 for 1954. Producers received an average of \$5.91 per 100 pounds for whole milk as against an

average of \$5.82 for the year before. Combined milk and cream sold amounted to 957 million pounds, an increase of about two percent over comparable sales in 1954. Milk production per cow at 4,700 pounds was an all-time record, and it was 180 pounds above the average of 4,520 pounds produced the year before.

FARM PRODUCTION, DISPOSITION AND INCOME FROM MILK IN NORTH CAROLINA 1954 - 1955

ITEM	UNIT	1954 1/	1955 2/
FARM PRODUCTION AND VALUE OF MILK:			
NUMBER OF MILK COWS ON FARMS 3/.....	No.	370,000	358,000
PRODUCTION OF MILK AND BUTTERFAT:			
MILK PRODUCTION PER MILK COW 4/.....	LBS.	4,520	4,700
MILKFAT PRODUCTION PER MILK COW.....	LBS.	194	202
PERCENTAGE OF FAT IN MILK.....	%	4.3	4.3
TOTAL MILK PRODUCTION ON FARMS 4/.....	LBS.	1,672,000,000	1,683,000,000
TOTAL MILKFAT PRODUCTION ON FARMS 4/.....	LBS.	72,000,000	72,000,000
BUTTER CHURNED ON FARMS.....	LBS.	16,800,000	16,000,000
VALUE OF MILK USED FOR FARM CONSUMPTION AND FARM BUTTER 5/.....	DoL.	41,031,000	41,015,000
GROSS FARM INCOME FROM DAIRY PRODUCTS 6/.....	DoL.	95,448,000	97,570,000
FARM VALUE OF MILK PRODUCED 7/.....	DoL.	97,310,000	99,465,000
MILK USED & MARKETING BY FARMERS			
AND CASH RETURNS PER UNIT MARKETING			
MILK USED ON FARMS WHERE PRODUCED:			
FED TO CALVES.....	LBS.	32,000,000	32,000,000
CONSUMED AS FLUID MILK OR CREAM.....	LBS.	384,000,000	388,000,000
USED FOR FARM CHURNED BUTTER.....	LBS.	321,000,000	306,000,000
TOTAL UTILIZED ON FARMS.....	LBS.	737,000,000	726,000,000
MILK MARKETING BY FARMERS:			
DELIVERED TO PLANTS & DEALERS AS WHOLE MILK.....	LBS.	625,000,000	850,000,000
AS FARM SKIMMED CREAM.....	LBS.	10,000,000	8,000,000
RETAILED BY FARMERS AS MILK & CREAM 8/.....	LBS.	100,000,000	99,000,000
TOTAL IN COMBINED MILK & CREAM MARKETINGS.....	LBS.	935,000,000	957,000,000
AVERAGE PER UNIT CASH RETURNS FROM MILK AND CREAM MARKETINGS 9/:			
PER 100 LBS. MILK.....	DoL.	5.82	5.91
PER 100 LBS. BUTTERFAT.....	DoL.	1.35	1.37
MILK AND CREAM MARKETING BY FARMERS:			
MILK SOLD TO PLANTS AND DEALERS			
QUANTITY SOLD.....	LBS.	825,000,000	850,000,000
PRICE PER 100 LB.....	DoL.	5.34	5.46
RECEIPTS FROM SALES.....	DoL.	44,055,000	46,410,000
CREAM SOLD TO PLANTS AND DEALERS:			
QUANTITY MILKFAT SOLD.....	LBS.	420,000	340,000
PRICE PER POUND FAT.....	CENTS	.50	.48
RECEIPTS FROM SALES.....	DoL.	210,000	163,000
MILK AND CREAM RETAILED BY FARMERS:			
QUANTITY SOLD MILK EQUIVALENT.....	QT.	47,000,000	46,000,000
PRICE PER QUART.....	CENTS	21.6	21.7
RECEIPTS FROM SALES.....	DoL.	10,152,000	9,982,000
CASH RECEIPTS FROM MARKETINGS OF ALL MILK & CREAM...	DoL.	54,417,000	56,555,000

1/ Revised. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Average number during years, heifers that have not freshened excluded. 4/ Excludes milk sucked by calves and milk produced by cows not on farms. 5/ Milk used for fluid consumption and home-made butter on farms where produced, valued at average per unit returns for milk utilized in all forms of sale. 6/ Cash receipts from marketings of milk and cream plus value of milk used for farm consumption and farm butter churned. 7/ Gross farm income plus value of milk fed to calves. 8/ Approximations based on Health Officers' reports of sources of fluid milk in villages, towns, and small cities, and information on sales by producer-distributors. 9/ Computed from the cash receipts from marketings of all milk and cream divided by the quantity of milk or butterfat represented in the marketings.

COMMERCIAL EARLY IRISH POTATOES

The commercial early Irish Potato production for North Carolina is currently estimated at 3,450,000 bushels for 1956 -- 12 percent less than the 3,900,000 bushels produced in 1955 and about 30 percent below the 1945-54 average production.

Current prospects point to an average yield of 230 bushels on 15,000 acres for harvest. If realized this would be 30 bushels below the 1955 yield but 22 bushels above average.

The Tarheel crop has made good progress and excellent recovery from the effects of continued low temperatures and condition on May 1 was generally very good. Growth has been retarded to some extent but with continued favorable weather digging of the early varieties will begin about June 1.

Total production for the late Spring group of States (including North Carolina) is placed at 40,542,000 bushels, 3 percent below the 1955 crop and 1 percent below average. California, which will produce nearly three-fourths of the late spring crop, is expected to harvest 29,925,000 bushels, about 9 percent less than the 1955 crop of 32,775,000 bushels.

The reduction in acreage for 1956 accounts for the decline since the prospective yield of 475 bushels per acre is the same as was obtained from the 1955 acreage. Harvest in the San Joaquin Valley would become heavy May 10-15 and continue through June. In the Southern California area, frost have retarded the crop somewhat. However, good recovery is being shown and harvest should start in this area about July 2nd.

In Alabama, harvest in the Baldwin area started the last week of April. Full-scale harvest is not expected until after May 10. The crops have had fairly good growing conditions and good yields are expected. In South Carolina, potatoes are in fair to good condition but the crops varies considerably by locality. Some frost damage was sustained as late as April 21, but as a whole, the crop recovered reasonably well from the hard freeze in early March. However, reduced yields are in prospect and harvest will likely extend over a longer period of time than usual. Some acreage is expected to be harvested during the last week of May with the bulk of the acreage expected to be dug during the first three weeks of June.

INDICATED ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION OF LATE SPRING POTATOES, 1956, BY STATES

CROP AND STATE	ACREAGE FOR HARVEST			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
	10-year Average		Indi- cated	10-yr. Avg.		Indi- cated	10-yr. Avg.		Indi- cated
	1945-54	1955	1956	45-54	1955	1956	45-54	1955	1956
	//			//			//		
	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Acres</u> <u>Prelim.</u>	<u>-Bushels-</u>			<u>-1,000 Bushels-</u>		
<u>Late Spring</u>									
NORTH CAROLINA	24,000	15,000	15,000	208	260	230	4,959	3,900	3,450
California	69,000	69,000	63,000	406	475	475	27,842	32,775	29,925
Louisiana	9,030	4,600	3,400	78	45	110	644	207	374
Mississippi	1,520	600	600	90	65	95	139	39	57
Alabama	21,170	18,500	18,200	150	65	200	3,218	1,202	3,640
Georgia	1,040	600	550	130	100	95	141	60	52
South Carolina	8,800	6,500	6,000	165	125	160	1,459	312	360
Arizona	4,150	4,800	3,600	374	400	400	1,548	1,920	1,440
Texas	4,390	3,800	4,000	71	65	90	347	247	360
Oklahoma	950	500	300	130	210	167	128	105	50
Arkansas	3,030	1,300	1,100	87	100	90	270	130	99
Tennessee	3,500	1,300	900	120	160	150	423	208	135
Group Total	151,080	126,500	116,650	276	329	348	41,119	41,005	40,542

// Group averages are simple averages of annual data for the group.

REVISED PRODUCTION OF FLUE-CURED TOBACCO IN ALL STATES AND BURLEY TOBACCO IN UNITED STATES 1954-1955

PRODUCING STATE	TYPE No.	ACREAGE HARVESTED		YIELD PER ACRE		PRODUCTION		AV. PRICE PER LB. REC'D BY FARMERS		VALUE OF PRODUCTION			
		1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955		
ACRES													
POUNDS													
THOUSAND POUNDS													
CENTS													
THOUSAND DOLLARS													
FLUE-CURED													
NORTH CAROLINA.....	11	266,000	255,000	1,120	1,310	297,920	334,050	52.7	53.2	157,004	177,715		
NORTH CAROLINA.....	12	334,000	317,000	1,430	1,625	477,620	515,125	55.3	53.0	264,124	273,016		
NORTH CAROLINA.....	13	86,000	81,000	1,325	1,600	113,950	129,600	54.3	54.1	61,875	70,114		
TOTAL N. C. FLUE-CURED....	11-13	686,000	653,000	1,297	1,499	889,490	978,775	54.3	53.2	483,003	520,845		
VIRGINIA.....	11	103,000	99,000	1,220	1,300	125,660	128,700	52.3	54.3	65,720	69,884		
SOUTH CAROLINA.....	13	126,000	116,000	1,175	1,700	148,050	197,200	49.0	54.5	72,544	107,474		
GEORGIA.....	14	105,000	101,000	1,170	1,465	122,850	147,965	45.6	47.2	56,020	69,839		
FLORIDA.....	14	21,500	21,100	1,290	1,410	27,735	29,751	53.5	45.9	14,838	13,656		
ALABAMA.....	14	700	600	888	1,090	622	654	49.0	47.4	305	310		
TOTAL ALL FLUE-CURED TYPES	11-14	1,042,200	990,700	1,261	1,497	1,314,407	1,483,045	52.7	52.7	692,430	782,008		
BURLEY													
NORTH CAROLINA.....	31	12,700	9,800	1,920	1,900	24,384	18,620	52.0	57.2	12,680	10,651		
KENTUCKY.....	31	284,000	207,000	1,595	1,470	452,980	304,290	50.0	59.4	226,490	180,748		
TENNESSEE.....	31	80,000	61,000	1,450	1,538	116,000	93,818	48.9	56.9	56,724	53,382		
VIRGINIA.....	31	14,100	10,200	1,880	1,920	26,508	19,584	50.7	56.0	13,440	10,967		
WEST VIRGINIA.....	31	3,200	2,500	1,550	1,600	4,960	4,000	50.2	58.4	2,490	2,336		
TOTAL ALL LIGHT AIR-CURED.	31-32	470,900	359,400	1,511	1,407	711,322	505,502	49.2	57.3	350,300	289,489		
UNITED STATES ALL TOBACCO	ALL	1,667,500	1,496,700	1,345	1,467	2,243,146	2,195,793	51.1	53.1	1,146,658	1,165,919		

* 1954 Revised - 1955 preliminary. 1/ Includes types not shown - and price and value data includes 1954 Maryland Crop using 1953 crop price.

STATE'S 1955 FLUE-CURED TOBACCO CROP HIGHEST ON RECORD

Flue-cured tobacco harvested in North Carolina during 1955 as of May 1 accounted for 10 percent more flue-cured tobacco broke all previous records for both production and yields than the 889,490,000 pounds produced in 1954, and it exceeded by reaching a total of 978,775,000 pounds with an average of the previous record, established in 1951 by 400,000 yield of 1,499 pounds per acre. The season's final estimate (Continued on Page 5)

STATE'S FLUE-CURED TOBACCO (Continued)

pounds. Types 12 and 13 within the total also attained production records, but Type 11 was exceeded in 1946 and 1951. All flue-cured types made record yields.

Burley acreage for 1955 was cut sharply from that of 1954, and so the 1955 production at 18,620,000 pounds was short of the 24,384,000 pounds produced in 1954 by about 24 percent. Yields between the two years were not greatly different, having been 1,920 pounds and 1,900 pounds for 1954 and 1955 respectively.

In value of production the total North Carolina tobacco crop for 1955 amounted to \$531,496,000 which was about seven percent higher than the value of the crop for 1954. By types, the value of production for 1954 and 1955, respectively, was as follows: Type 11, \$157,004,000 and \$177,715,000; Type 12, \$264,124,000 and \$273,016,000; Type 13, \$61,875,000 and \$70,114,000; Total flue-cured, \$483,003,000 and \$520,845,000; Type 31, \$12,680,000 and \$10,651,000; and Total All Types, \$495,683,000 and \$531,496,000.

Total 1955 production of all types of tobacco in North Carolina amounted to 997,395,000 pounds. This out-put is 9.1 percent above the 913,874,000 pounds produced in 1954, and it is a close second to the record high production of 999,725,000 pounds established in 1951. Acres of all tobacco harvested in 1955 totaled 662,800 with an average yield of 1,505 pounds per acre, by far the highest average yield for the state on record.



NORTH CAROLINA FINAL COTTON REPORT WITH COMPARISONS

Final ginnings for the season in North Carolina indicate a 1955 cotton crop of 351,000 bales of 500 pounds gross weight. This production was 3.6 percent below the 364,000 bales harvested in 1954 and about 29 percent short of the 1944-53 ten-year average production of 492,000 bales.

Yield of lint in 1955 amounted to 345 pound per acre, 29 pounds above the yield of 1954 and 15 pounds over the ten-year average.

Cottonseed production from the 1955 crop totaled 146,000 tons as compared with a 155,000 turn-out for 1954. The estimated average price of \$39.10 per ton received by farmers for cottonseed was \$22.60 per ton less than received for the crop in 1954. Total production for the year was valued at \$5,709,000 which was 40 percent under the \$9,564,000 value of the seed produced the year before. At an average price of 32.1 cents a pound the value of cotton lint produced in 1955 amounted to \$56,320,000. The combined value of lint and seed at \$62,029,000 was about 15 percent less than the \$72,767,000 combined value of the crop for 1954.

Cotton in cultivation on July 1, 1955 in North Carolina is estimated at 492,000 acres, which is 65,000 acres under the acres in cultivation on July 1, 1954 and 219,000 acres below the 1944-53 average. The reductions in acreage are, of course, the results of allotments designed to control production. Abandonment of 1955 acreage in cultivation on July 1 was estimated at 12,000 acres, leaving 48,000 acres harvested.

N. C. FINAL COTTON REPORT WITH COMPARISONS

ITEM	UNIT	1952	1953	1954 <u>1/</u>	1955 <u>2/</u>
ACRES IN CULTIVATION.....	THOUS. ACRES	753	782	557	492
ACRES HARVESTED.....	THOUS. ACRES	745	775	545	480
LINT YIELD PER HARVESTED ACRES.....	POUNDS	366	278	319	350
PRODUCTION (LINT).....	THOUS. BALES <u>3/</u>	569	449	364	351
AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED PER POUND (LINT).	CENTS	35.68	33.0	34.74	32.1
VALUE OF PRODUCTION (LINT).....	THOUS. DOLS.	101,471	74,206	63,203	56,320
PRODUCTION (COTTONSEED).....	THOUS. TONS	239	185	155	146
AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED PER TON.....	DOLLARS	71.20	50.90	61.70	39.10
VALUE OF PRODUCTION (COTTONSEED).....	THOUS. DOLS.	17,017	9,416	9,564	5,709
VALUE OF PRODUCTION (LINT AND SEED).....	THOUS. DOLS.	118,488	83,622	72,587	62,029
FARM DISPOSITION OF COTTONSEED:					
CASH SALES.....	THOUS. TONS	210	165	135	125
USED ON FARMS <u>4/</u>	THOUS. TONS	29	20	20	21

1/ Revised. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ 500 pound gross weight bales. 4/ Includes some sales between farms.

FARM PRODUCTION - DISPOSITION AND VALUE OF CROPS - 1955 - NORTH CAROLINA

CROPS	UNIT	PRODUCTION	TOTAL USED FOR SEED	FARM DISPOSITION				SOLD	SEASON'S AVE. PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS	VALUE OF PRODUCTION	VALUE OF PRODUCTS USED IN HOUSEHOLD	VALUE OF SALES
				USED ON FARMS WHERE GROWN								
				USED ON FARMS WHERE GROWN								
				FOR SEED	FED TO LIVESTOCK							
<u>Thousands</u>												
<u>1955 PRELIMINARY</u>												
			666	466	1,936	500	4,270	2.00	14,344	1,000	8,540	
WHEAT.....	BU.	7,172		36	96	-	120	2.00	504	-	240	
RYE.....	BU.	252	150	-	*	1,000	8,927	1.25	85,069	1,250	11,159	
CORN, ALL PURPOSES.....	BU.	68,055	58,128*	-	*	-	5,359	.76	14,045	-	4,073	
OATS.....	BU.	18,480	13,121*	-	*	-	363	1.11	1,834	-	403	
BARLEY.....	BU.	1,652	1,289*	-	*	-	1,270	1.10	3,326	-	1,397	
SORGHUM GRAIN.....	BU.	3,024	1,754*	-	*	-	35	4.60	437	37	161	
COWPEAS FOR PEAS.....	BU.	95	72	48	4	8	4,562	2.10	10,626	-	9,580	
SOYBEANS FOR BEANS.....	BU.	5,060	642	321	177	-						
PEANUTS, PICKED AND THRESHED.....	LBS.	216,200	15,000	10,500	216**	1,925	203,559	.129	27,890	248	26,259	
HAY, ALL.....	TONS	1,244	-	-	-	1,156	88	31.00	38,564	-	2,728	
LE'SPEDEZA SEED (CLEAN).	LBS.	33,250	-	11,970	-	-	21 280	9.60	3,192	-	2,043	
SORGHUM SIRUP.....	GALS.	228	-	-	-	110	118	2.65	604	-	313	
TOBACCO, ALL.....	LBS.	997,395	-	-	-	-	997,395	.533	531,496	-	531,496	
TYPE 11.....	LBS.	334,050	-	-	-	-	334,050	.532	177,715	-	177,715	
TYPE 12.....	LBS.	515,125	-	-	-	-	515,125	.530	273,016	-	273,016	
TYPE 13.....	LBS.	129,600	-	-	-	-	129,600	.541	70,114	-	70,114	
TYPE 31.....	LBS.	18,620	-	-	-	-	18,620	.572	10,651	-	10,651	
COTTON.....	BALES	351	-	-	-	-	351	.321	56,320	-	56,320	
COTTONSEED.....	TONS	146	-	-	-	-	125	39.10	5,709	-	4,888	

* Feed and seed not shown separately - combined.

** Fed to livestock and lost.

NORTH CAROLINA WHEAT ACRES FOR HARVEST UP 11 PERCENT

North Carolina's 1956 wheat acres for harvest is estimated at 362,000, up 11 percent from the 1955 harvested acreage of 326,000. production is forecast at 7,964,000 bushels, which is also 11 percent above the 7,172,000 bushels produced in 1955.

May 1, condition reports made by growers indicated an average yield of 22.0 bushels per harvested acre. This yield is the same as that for last year, but is 4.0 bushels above the 1945-54 average.

(Continued on Page 8)

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR APRIL

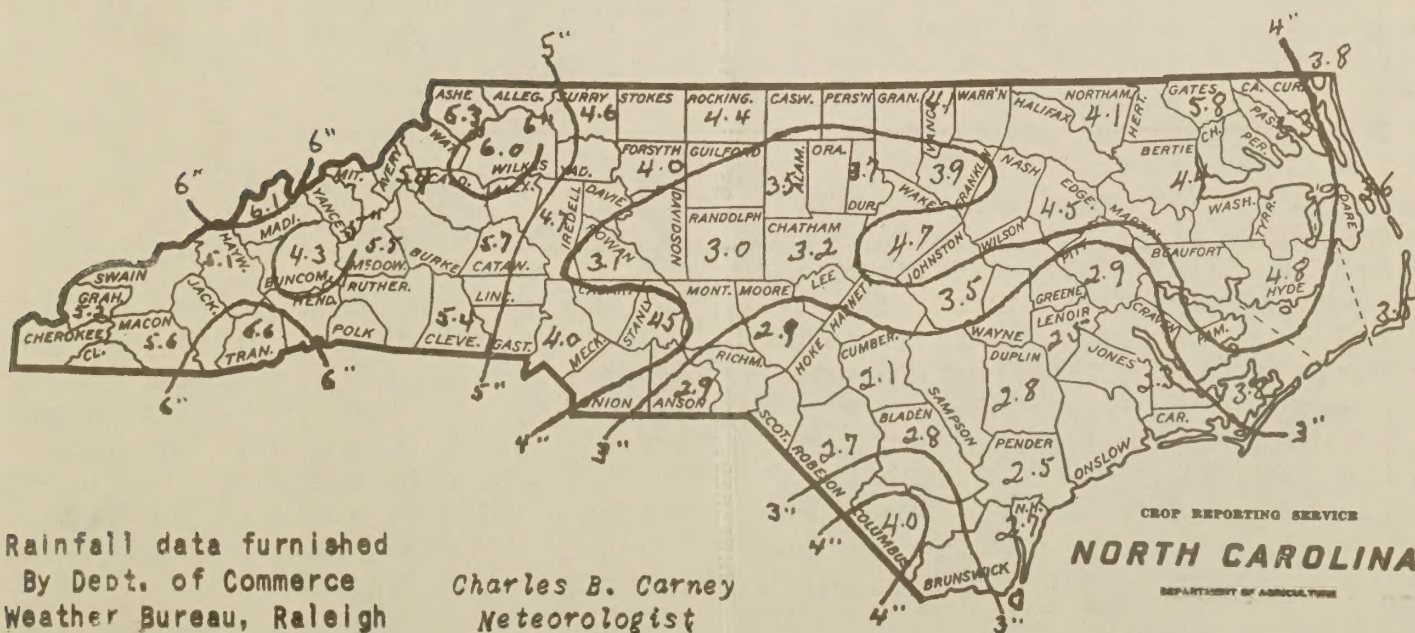
April weather was remarkable mainly for its extended cool weather, which lasted almost unbroken from the 8th through the 25th. In general, the first half of the month was damp, being characterized by frequent passages of low pressure storms and weather fronts, while the weather of the last half was largely controlled by high pressure over the interior of the United States. Both wind and sunshine were above average during April, and there was some blowing dust in plowed fields during the dry weather of the last half of the month. Easterly winds blowing around a low pressure storm which moved up the coast on the 11th caused tides along the northern coast to rise high enough to block the Outer Banks highway.

Except for the first week, the 15th, and a few days at the end of the month, April weather was consistently cold for the time of year. Freezing weather occurred on about four times as many mornings as usual for April. There were two periods of about five days each in which the cold threatened spring vegetation, and some damage was done. The first of the spells, the 8th through the 12th, brought freezing weather to all but the

coast, while the second, lasting from the 17th through the 21st, was just as cold. The climax of the April cold weather came on the morning of the 21st when many weather stations reported the coldest weather of record for so late in the season. On the warm side, temperatures of 80 or higher occurred on a number of days in the first and last weeks of April.

Rain occurred frequently during the first sixteen days of April, but the greater part of the month's total rainfall was accounted for in two rainy days, the 6th and the 11th, and in a three-day period around the middle of the month. Each of these periods brought an inch or more of rain to most of North Carolina. After the rain ended on the 16th, there were only scattered light sprinkles -- not enough to measure in most cases -- until the last day of the month, when general rains again fell over most of the State. Rainfall totals for the month varied considerably over the State, ranging from less than three inches over a large part of the southern Coastal Plain to five or six inches over most of the Mountain section.

INCHES OF RAINFALL, APRIL 1956



FARM REPORT

Compiled by authority of
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Service
Agricultural Estimates Division
S. R. Newell, Director

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PEACH PROSPECTS NEAR THREE-FIFTHS AVERAGE CROP

The first 1956 peach production forecast is for a crop of 900,000 bushels. A crop of this size would be 58 percent of the 1945-54 average production of 1,559,000 bushels. Some loss in prospective production was sustained from late March freezes. Cold weather occurred also in April when on several days temperatures were at or below freezing level for a few hours in the early morning. Conditions are spotty -- some orchards being a complete failure while others escaped with partial or little damage. Locations of orchards and variety of peaches contributed to the variation in condition among orchards.

Estimated production for the 10 major producing Southern States is reported at 9,410,000 bushels. This volume would be 71 percent of the 1945-54 ten-year average production of 13,255,000 bushels.

WHEAT ACRES (Continued)

United States winter wheat condition, as of May 1, indicated a production of 681.4 million bushels. This would be 3.4 percent less than the 1955 crop of 705.4 million bushels and 21.9 percent less than the 872.6 million bushels ten-year average.

HAY STOCKS ON FARMS 56 PERCENT ABOVE 1955

May 1, 1956 stocks of hay on Tarheel farms are estimated at 236,000 tons compared with 151,000 tons a year earlier and 277,000 for the 1945-54 ten-year average. Stocks of hay for the past two years were below normal primarily due to drought conditions which curtailed production. Present stocks of hay are at a more normal level as a result of a near average production in 1955.